

CHAPTER 15
GROUNDWATER PROTECTION PROGRAM EVALUATION

561—15.1(455B) Authority and purpose.

15.1(1) Authority. Iowa Code section 455E.8(7) provides that the director of the department of natural resources shall adopt by administrative rule, criteria for evaluating groundwater protection programs.

15.1(2) Purpose. The purpose of these rules is to provide criteria by which the groundwater protection programs promulgated by 1987 Iowa Acts, chapter 225, and related groundwater programs are to be evaluated on a regular basis.

561—15.2(455B) Reports and scheduling. Groundwater program status reports identified in 15.4(2)“b” below shall be prepared annually and shall cover the performance period of the programs during the period from July 1 to June 30 of each state fiscal year. Groundwater program evaluation shall be conducted and a report prepared on a biennial basis. Groundwater status reports shall be completed by October 1 of each year. Groundwater program evaluations shall be completed by October 1 on even-numbered years. The director will include the groundwater program evaluations into the biennial report required under 455B.263(1).

561—15.3(455B) Evaluation committee.

15.3(1) Committee members. Groundwater program status reports and groundwater program evaluations shall be performed by an evaluation committee which shall consist of one representative of each of the following:

- a. Board of regents.
- b. Department of public health.
- c. Department of agriculture and land stewardship.
- d. Soil and water conservation district commissioners.
- e. Department of natural resources.

15.3(2) Chairperson. The chairperson of the evaluation committee shall be the representative of the department of natural resources.

15.3(3) Duties. The evaluation committee is responsible for assembling individual agency groundwater program status reports by October 1 of each year. The evaluation committee is also responsible for conducting the groundwater program evaluations and submitting a consolidated evaluation report to the director of the department of natural resources by October 1 of each even-numbered year. The evaluation committee must seek input from public or private agencies in conducting the groundwater program evaluations.

561—15.4(455B) Evaluation criteria.

15.4(1) Scope. The evaluation criteria shall be utilized to evaluate the groundwater protection programs identified in rule 15.5(455B) below.

15.4(2) Criteria. The evaluation committee shall consider the following criteria:

- a. The groundwater protection goal, Iowa Code section 455E.4 and all other policy statements contained in 1987 Iowa Acts, chapter 225.
- b. A groundwater program status report which includes a description of the activities required by 1987 Iowa Acts, chapter 225, a description of activities undertaken to comply with 1987 Iowa Acts, chapter 225, an identification of milestones established or met, costs expended, revenues generated, and an identification of agencies responsible for or participating in the program.
- c. An identification of the strengths (successes) or weaknesses (failures) of the program including an assessment of: compliance, funding and staffing needs, commitment to meeting milestones, promotion of interagency cooperation and public awareness, and contribution to the resource information base.
- d. A description of economic loss or gains resulting from implementation of the program.

e. A description of environmental impacts resulting from implementation of the program including an identification of studies being conducted to assess changes in groundwater quality resulting from program implementation, a description of the findings or results, and an identification of any trends or other significant results.

f. A summary of the comments or input received from public or private interest groups.

g. An assessment of whether or not the program is complying with the policy statement(s) or goal including a description of program changes or additions needed for the purposes of: completing mandated program activities; being more effective and efficient at meeting the program's policy statement or declaration; preventing contamination to Iowa's groundwater.

h. Any other criteria necessary for the evaluation of the groundwater protection programs.

561—15.5(455B) Programs to be evaluated.

15.5(1) The programs to be evaluated are those promulgated by the legislature in 1987 Iowa Acts, chapter 225 and related groundwater programs.

a. Iowa Code chapter 455E, Part 1, "Groundwater Protection," 1987 Iowa Acts, chapter 225;

b. Part 2, "Pesticides and Fertilizers," 1987 Iowa Acts, chapter 225;

c. Part 3, "Wells, Sinkholes, Watershed and Wetlands," 1987 Iowa Acts, chapter 225;

d. Part 4, "Solid Waste Management and Landfills," 1987 Iowa Acts, chapter 225;

e. Part 5, "Household Hazardous Waste," 1987 Iowa Acts, chapter 225;

f. Part 6, "Storage Tank Management," 1987 Iowa Acts, chapter 225; and

g. All other related groundwater programs.

15.5(2) Reserved.

[Filed 6/24/88, Notice 5/4/88—published 7/13/88, effective 8/17/88]